



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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**SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE  
HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA ("HIDTA") TASK FORCE**

**MEMBER OF SALEM, NH/LAWRENCE, MA "CRACK" COCAINE RING  
ENTERS GUILTY PLEA TO FEDERAL DISTRIBUTION CHARGES**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE:** United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and DEA Resident Agent in Charge Leo Ducey announced that **Carmen LLAURADOR, aka Carmen Diaz**, 46, of Lawrence, MA was convicted today of crack cocaine distribution charges.

According to affidavits accompanying federal criminal complaints issued by U.S. Magistrate Judge James Muirhead during June and July, 2004, LLAURADOR was part a four-person drug distribution network that sold "crack" cocaine, obtained from a Lawrence, Massachusetts-based source of supply, to an undercover DEA Special Agent during the spring and summer of 2004 in Salem, NH and Methuen, MA. Also facing federal charges arising from the investigation are:

- Ramoon SURIEL, 35, of Lawrence, MA;
- Lizette HERNANDEZ, 36, of Lawrence, MA; and
- Opinio PENA, 45, of Lawrence, MA.

LLAURADOR entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Judge Paul Barbadoro to an information charging her with possession with intent to distribute over 50 grams of cocaine base, aka "crack" cocaine. Judge Barbadoro detained LLAURADOR without bail pending her sentencing hearing scheduled for February 22, 2005. Because of the quantity of crack cocaine involved in the case, LLAURADOR faces a minimum 10-year term of imprisonment, and a potential life sentence.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated, "My Office is committed not only to aggressively prosecuting drug traffickers operating in Manchester and New Hampshire's other larger cities, but also those importing illegal drugs into New Hampshire over the Massachusetts border. The Southern New Hampshire HIDTA Task Force conducted a thorough and aggressive investigation in this case."

The conviction resulted from a Southern New Hampshire HIDTA Task Force, located at DEA's New Hampshire headquarters. The prosecution is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante, the Lead Attorney for the District of New Hampshire in the New England Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force ("New England OCDEF").